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Fiftieth session
Agenda item 72

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/50/592)]

50/72. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament, 1/

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Noting with satisfaction the results achieved so far on the subject of a comprehensive test ban, as well as the commitment to complete the negotiations on the issue as soon as possible and not later than 1996,

1. Reaffirms the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. Welcomes the determination of the Conference on Disarmament to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items of its agenda;

3. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to continue as the highest

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/50/27).

priority task its negotiations to conclude a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

4. Acknowledges decision CD 1356 taken by the Conference on Disarmament on 21 September 1995 2/ regarding its composition and the commitment to implement that decision at the earliest possible date;

5. Encourages the review of the agenda and methods of work of the Conference on Disarmament;

6. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to make every effort to reach a consensus on its programme of work at the beginning of its 1996 session;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

8. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

B

Disarmament Week

The General Assembly,

Noting the fundamental change that has been brought about by the end of the cold war and bipolar confrontation, and welcoming the important achievements of late in the areas of arms limitation and disarmament,

Noting with satisfaction that this year's observance of Disarmament Week coincides with the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations,

Stressing the increasing role and prestige of the United Nations as a focal point for coordinating and harmonizing the efforts of States,

Emphasizing anew the need for and the importance of world public opinion in support of disarmament efforts in all their aspects,

Noting with satisfaction the broad and active support by Governments and international and national organizations of the decision taken by the General Assembly at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament, regarding the proclamation of the week starting 24 October, the day of the founding of the United Nations, as a week devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament, 3/

Recalling the recommendations concerning the World Disarmament Campaign contained in annex V to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session

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2/ Ibid., para. 14.

3/ Resolution S-10/2, para. 102.

of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, in particular the recommendation that Disarmament Week should continue to be widely observed, 4/

Noting the support for the further observance of Disarmament Week expressed by Member States at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament,

Recognizing the significance of the annual observance of Disarmament Week, including by the United Nations,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the observance of Disarmament Week; 5/

2. Commends all States, international and national governmental and non-governmental organizations for their active support for and participation in Disarmament Week;

3. Invites all States that so desire, in carrying out appropriate measures at the local level on the occasion of Disarmament Week, to take into account the elements of the model programme for Disarmament Week prepared by the Secretary-General; 6/

4. Invites Governments and international and national non-governmental organizations to continue to take an active part in Disarmament Week;

5. Invites the Secretary-General to continue to use the United Nations informational organs as widely as possible to promote better understanding among the world public of disarmament problems and the objectives of Disarmament Week;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Disarmament Week".

90th plenary meeting
12 December 1995

C

Expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament, 1/ and in particular the part concerning expansion of the membership of the Conference,

Stressing the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral global negotiating body on disarmament,

Emphasizing the fact that, notwithstanding dramatic changes in the

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4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes agenda items 9-13, document A/S-12/32, annex V, para. 12.

5/ A/50/291.

6/ A/34/436.

international situation and continuous consultations, there has been no expansion of the membership of the Conference during the last seventeen years,

Fully convinced that an enlarged membership is desirable in order to take advantage of the current propitious international climate to negotiate and conclude, on the solid basis of a more representative participation, a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and other important agreements requiring universal adherence,

Recognizing the legitimate aspirations of all candidate countries to participate fully in the work of the Conference on Disarmament, and recalling relevant decisions taken to review the composition of the Conference, including the agreement reached among Member States during the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament on a further expansion and on the wish to review the membership of the then Committee on Disarmament at regular intervals,

Noting that the Conference on Disarmament, which is funded from the regular budget, was granted, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/77 B of 16 December 1993, supplementary administrative, substantive and conference support services, inter alia, in anticipation of its expansion,

Recalling in particular its resolution 49/77 B of 15 December 1994, adopted without a vote, urging the Conference on Disarmament to make every effort to reach a solution resulting, by the beginning of 1995, in a significant expansion of its composition, which would then include at least sixty countries,

Strongly regretting, nevertheless, that the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to adopt the report of the then Special Coordinator for Membership, and the recommended composition attached to it, taken at the end of the 1995 session did not result in the immediate expansion of its membership,

1. Recalls the report of 12 August 1993 of the Special Coordinator for Membership 7/ designated by the Conference on Disarmament and the subsequent statement made by the Special Coordinator on 26 August 1993, recommending a dynamic solution to the question of membership;

2. Recognizes the legitimate aspirations of all countries that have applied for membership to participate fully in the work of the Conference on Disarmament;

3. Acknowledges decision CD/1356, taken at the 719th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament on 21 September 1995, 2/ including the commitment to implement the decision at the earliest possible date;

4. Calls for the implementation of decision CD/1356 on the expansion of membership of the Conference on Disarmament on an urgent basis;

5. Strongly urges that the new members should, in pursuance of decision CD/1356 and with particular reference to the provisions contained in the second paragraph of that decision, all assume together membership of the Conference at the start of the 1996 session of the Conference;

6. Calls on the Conference on Disarmament, in accordance with its

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7/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27), para. 13 (incorporating document CD/1214).

decision CD/1356, to review the situation following the presentation of progress reports by the President of the Conference on ongoing consultations at the end of each part of its annual session;

7. Urges that, following the presentation of progress reports by the President of the Conference, the other candidatures to date be further considered by the Conference at its 1996 session.

90th plenary meeting
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D

Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the annual report of the Disarmament Commission, 8/

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993 and 49/77 A of 15 December 1994,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. Takes note of the annual report of the Disarmament Commission; 8/

2. Notes with regret that the Disarmament Commission was unable to achieve agreement on guidelines and recommendations under its agenda item entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons" and on recommendations under its agenda item entitled "Review of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade", both of which were concluded in 1995;

3. Notes the progress made and continuing consideration by the Disarmament Commission of its agenda item entitled "International arms transfers, with particular reference to General Assembly resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991", which is to be concluded in 1996;

4. Reaffirms the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

5. Also reaffirms the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

6. Encourages the Disarmament Commission to continue to make every effort to enhance its working methods so as to enable it to give focused consideration to a limited number of priority issues in the field of

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8/ Ibid., Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/50/42).

disarmament, bearing in mind the decision it has taken to move its agenda towards a three-item phased approach;

7. Requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 9/ and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission"; 10/

8. Recommends that, pursuant to the adopted three-item phased approach, the Disarmament Commission, at its 1995 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 1996 substantive session:

(a) International arms transfers, with particular reference to General Assembly resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991;

(b) [to be added]; 11/

(c) [to be added]; 11/

9. Requests the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1996 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, 1/ together with all the official records of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

11. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

12. Further requests the Secretary-General to prepare a compilation, in the format of a note by the Secretary-General, of all texts of principles, guidelines or recommendations on subject items that have been unanimously adopted by the Disarmament Commission since its inception in 1978;

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

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9/ Resolution S-10/2.

10/ A/CN.10/137 of 27 April 1990.

11/ The new item will be decided by the Disarmament Commission at its 1995 organizational session.